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Montana Academy of Sciences receives \$85,000 for television science series

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MONTANA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES RECEIVES
\$85,000 FOR TELEVISION SCIENCE SERIES

MISSOULA--

The Montana Academy of Sciences (MAS) has received a total of \$85,000 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and four units of the Montana University System for a television series extension course dealing with various scientific topics in Montana.

Commenting on project funding, Dr. James W. Cox, professor of chemistry at the University of Montana in Missoula, who is past president of the MAS and director of the project, said, "The project originally received \$6,000 from in-state sources and then a grant of \$57,100 ^{the} from/NSF. We recently received an additional \$21,900 from the NSF as a supplementary portion to the original grant."

The eight-part television series, tentatively entitled "The Scientist Looks at Montana," is scheduled to be aired beginning in January 1977.

Commenting on the nature of the series, James N. Lynk, a graduate student in forestry at UM, who is assistant director for the project, said, "The series will be strictly about Montana and done by Montanans."

Topics to be included in the series are "The Computer in Montana," "Montana Waters," "Montana Conifers and Forest Use," "Montana Mining History: the First 30 Years," "The Geology of the Montana High Plains," "Native Birds of Montana," "The Big Sky"--Astronomy, and "Montana Wildflowers."

Scientists and experts in each of those areas, known throughout the state, will participate as advisers for the television production teams.

"The project is a cooperative effort between Montana scientists and media-production persons," Cox said. "Most of the programs in the series are being done by young film makers from throughout the state; no two programs will have the same director or producer."

College credit may be earned by watching the series and completing other course requirements through the continuing education departments of the four participating units in the Montana University System. These units include Eastern Montana College, Billings; Montana State University, Bozeman; Northern Montana College, Havre, and the University of Montana, Missoula.

The MAS, founded in 1937, is an organization of about 250 Montana scientists representing colleges, industry and government.

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